

Claims

1. (currently amended) ~~[c1]~~ This The invention claims claimed is an architecture extension, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3, to an existing PABX or EPABX (50) architecture such that it will provide broadband services to the end user of such a PABX or EPABX.

Claims 2 – 5 (Cancelled)

Claims [c6] – [c20] (Cancelled).

21. (new) I claim one implementation of the invention wherein the extension box or node (40) is external to the PABX or EPABX (50).

22. (new) The external box or node (40) set forth in Claim 21 contains broadband interfaces (80, 90, 100 and 110) and is connected via twisted wire (70) to various digital access devices (10, 20 and 30) on one side and is connected to a PABX or EPABX (50) via optical cable (60) or twisted wire (70) on the other side, as illustrated in Figures 1 and 2.

23. (new) I claim a second implementation of the invention wherein the external box or node (40) and its functionality is integrated within the PABX or EPABX (50) as illustrated in Figure 3.

24. (new) The integrated architecture implementation set forth in Claim 23 houses the broadband interfaces (80, 90, 100 and 110) within the PABX or EPABX (50) and gets connected to digital access devices (10, 20 and 30) via twisted wire (70) on one side and via high speed optical interface (120) on the network side.

Summary of Invention

The purpose of the invention is to enhance an existing narrowband PABX/EPABX to provide broadband data and telecommunication services such as high bandwidth, high-speed data, image and video from one end user to another with a unique architecture modification to the existing narrowband PABX/EPABX. In the absence of such a modification, the existing narrowband PABX/EPABX is unable to handle such services that are very popular and are in demand by the users of telecommunications network. The implementation of the invention avoids a "forklift" upgrade to the existing narrowband PABX/EPABX (i.e., discarding the existing equipment and replacing it with totally new equipment) and would thus be very cost effective.